



Idaho State Independent Living Council

**The Idaho SLC's Mission Is To
Advocate For And Achieve
Independence, Choice, Self-
determination, Equal Access And
Equal Opportunity For Idahoans
With Disabilities Through Systems
Change, Policy Involvement And
Public Education.**

FEDERAL REHABILITATION ACT

ESTABLISHMENT. — To be Eligible to Receive Financial Assistance Under This Chapter, Each State Shall Establish A Statewide Independent Living Council. The Council Shall Not Be Established As An Entity Within A State Agency.

IDAHO SILC INTRODUCTION

- **Created By Governor Andrus By Executive Order 93-01 On May 28, 1993.**
- **In Order For The SILC To Become An Autonomous Body, HB 711 Was Introduced And Passed During The 2004 Legislative Session.**
- **The SILC Is Not A State Agency, But A Government Entity Created By The State. State Government Employee Benefits, Payroll, Postal Rates, Telephone Rates, Etc., Are Still Available To The SILC.**

INTRODUCTION

- **Idaho Is One Of Only A Few States Whose SILC Has Taken A Lead In The IL Movement.**
- **Twenty-two (22) Individuals Are Appointed By The Governor To The SILC.**
- **The SILC Is Engaged In Activities That Will Assist People With Disabilities To Have A Greater Voice In Obtaining Services That Are Cost-effective, Consumer-responsive And Community-based.**

SILC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Protecting Parents With Disabilities From Discrimination In Child Custody.**
- **Idaho Building Code Advisory Act.**
- **Voter Accessibility.**
- **Accessible Parking.**
- **Adding Disability As A Protected Class Within The Human Rights Act.**
- **Medicaid For Workers With Disabilities**

MEMBERSHIP

- **Each Member Of The SILC Is Appointed To A Three-year Term.**
- **Members Must Represent A Broad Range Of Disabilities And Be Knowledgeable About Centers For Independent Living (CIL) And II Services.**
- **The SILC Must Be Made Up Of At Least 51% People With Disabilities Who Do Not Work For A CIL Or A State Agency.**

MEMBERSHIP

- **People with Disabilities — A Majority Of The SILC Members Are Individuals With A Disability.**
- **Parents Of Children Or Adults With Disabilities.**
- **Advocates For People With Disabilities.**
- **Center For Independent Living Representatives.**
- **Service Providers For People With Disabilities.**
- **Business Representatives.**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

- **Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**
- **Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
- **Department of Health & Welfare**
- **Department of Education - Division of Special Education**
- **Idaho Commission on Aging**

SILC RESPONSIBILITIES

- **In Cooperation With The Idaho Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation And The Idaho Commission For The Blind And Visually Impaired, Develops, Signs And Submits The State Plan For Independent Living (SPIL) For People With Disabilities.**
- **Monitors, Reviews And Evaluates The Implementation Of The State Plan For Independent Living.**

SILC RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Support The Centers For Independent Living (CILs) And Advocate For Independent Living Services Provided Through State And Federal Programs For People With Disabilities.**
- **Gather Information, Conduct Studies And Analyses, Develops Model Policies, Conducts Training On The Independent Living Philosophy And Outreach To Unserved Or Underserved Populations, And Carries Out Demonstrations To Expand And Improve Independent Living Services And Activities To Improve The Current Disability Service System.**

NEEDS OF IDAHOANS WITH DISABILITIES

- (1) Increased availability of accessible & affordable transportation statewide;
- (2) The enforcement of existing civil rights laws and the advancement of the civil rights for people with disabilities;
- (3) Public awareness to reduce stigma and increase understanding of people with disabilities, especially in schools and with law enforcement;
- (4) Access to and coordination of information and resources available to people with disabilities.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

- Days of service are typically limited to Monday through Friday.
- Similarly, there is rarely public transportation available after 7:00PM.
- Human service programs – including some medical and social security offices are not located on transportation lines.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

- Some communities have no public transportation at all.
- Customer service is not responsive.
- Scheduled rides are unreliable.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

- Since the reimbursement rate for Medicaid transportation has been cut, service had noticeably declined.
- There are no accessible vehicles or available vehicles are old and unsafe.
- Accessible vehicles in some areas seem to sit idle.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Participants expressed a strong and repeated desire to see the available transportation resources coordinated in a way to expand transportation services
- There was also a desire to see more coordination of efforts at the State level across agencies

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Participants expressed a vision of a program that provided funding for purchasing accessible vehicles or for modifying vehicles (publicly and privately owned)
- Volunteer and ridesharing programs, and entrepreneurial approaches such as one person who owns an accessible vehicle providing accessible rides to others

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Participants described a vision in which all available transportation and rides were scheduled through an integrated mechanism rather than separate agencies.
- Participants expressed support for the idea that more resources were needed for public transportation in Idaho